

Message Text

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46

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 L-03 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 /026 W

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R 012021Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9671

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRIDGETOWN 1795

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BB

SUBJ: BARBADOS' AIR TRANSPORT LICENSING AUTHORITY (ATLA)

TO MEET OCTOBER 3

1. PRIMIN ERROL W. BARROW TELEPHONED ME ON SEPT 30
TO ADVISE THAT ATLA WOULD MEET ON OCTOBER 3
AND EXPECTS TO APPROVE OPERATING LICENSE FOR AMERICAN
AIRLINES. (AA)

2. THIS FOLLOWED A ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS WITH (1) MAURICE
JONES, VERY HELPFUL, INFLUENTIAL DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL
CARIBBEAN AIRWAYS (ICA) AND MEMBER OF ATLA, WHO AFTERWARDS
MET WITH ATLA CHAIRMAN WEATHERHEAD; (2) SR. CROWN COUNSEL
IAN ARCHER, ICA CHAIRMAN-DESIGNATE, AND ATLA MEMBER; AND (3)
PRIMIN BARROW. COINCIDENTALLY, THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS
BOARD (CAB) HOLDS ITS PRELIMINARY HEARING WITH ICA AND LAKER
THE SAME DATE.

3. WE HAVE NO INDICATION OF WHAT FORM, PROVISIONAL OR ON-
GOING, THE LICENSE MAY TAKE, OR RESTRICTIONS WHICH MAY
BE ATTACHED TO IT. ALREADY, THE AA TIMETABLE HAS SLIPPED TO
NOVEMBER 1 FOR INITIATING SERVICE. IN EVENT
OF ANY RESTRICTION WHICH THWARTS BUSINESS, AA WOULD HAVE NO
ALTERNATIVE BUT TO FOREGO BARBADOS DURING THE COMING TOURIST
SEASON. I HAVE PRESSED THIS POINT WITH THE PM AND ATLA
MEMBERS. THE PM HAS RESPONDED SLUGGISHLY TO MY CONCERNS

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ABOUT THE DELAY ACCORDED AA, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF LOSING

THEIR SERVICES, POSSIBLY OUT OF PRIDE OR PRESUMED PRESSURE
ON U.S. THE CONCERN IS NOW BEGINNING TO REGISTER, AS
MID-DAY ATMOSPHERE AT SEAWELL AIRPORT BEGINS TO FEEL LIKE
"HIGH NOON IN A GHOST-TOWN." AGAIN, ATLA MEMBER JONES HAS
ASSURED ME THAT THE LICENSE WILL BE THE SAME AS THE PREVIOUS
PAN AM.
BRITTON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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